

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Bill for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Bill many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES W.  
SIMMONS, PH.D.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Charles W. Simmons, Ph.D., founder and president of Sojourner-Douglass College, Maryland's only independent institution of higher learning specifically focused on educating African Americans.

Like Sojourner Truth and Frederick Douglass, for whom the college is named, Dr. Simmons has devoted his life to helping others obtain the education and skills necessary to succeed both professionally and personally. Through his efforts, Sojourner-Douglass College has helped thousands of working adults become confident, self-reliant community leaders and decision-makers.

Dr. Simmons served in the U.S. Marine Corps and graduated from Antioch College. After graduating from college, he dedicated his life to empowering African Americans through education. In 1972, he established the Homestead-Montebello Center of Antioch College with just 13 students in donated space in east Baltimore. In 1980, the school was accredited under a new name, Sojourner-Douglass College. Today, it serves more than 2,000 students in locations throughout Maryland, as well as in Nassau, Bahamas.

Because of Dr. Simmons' vision, many more African American adults have obtained the skills necessary to improve not only their own lives, but the communities in which they live.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the achievements of Charles W. Simmons, Ph.D. His vision and commitment to the education and self-determination of African Americans is an inspiration to all who want to ensure that others have the opportunity to fulfill their potential.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mr. Speaker, on rollcalls Nos. 241 and 242, I was delayed due to weather related issues. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF JERRY  
CLINTON

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the outstanding citizens of my District.

Jerry Clinton is a native St. Louisan who is Chairman and CEO of Grey Eagle Distributors. Grey Eagle employs more than 175 people in St. Louis and has been recognized as one of America's premier Anheuser-Busch wholesalers.

Through Grey Eagle and his own personal generosity, Jerry Clinton provides financial support to hundreds of philanthropic organizations in the St. Louis area each year. One such organization is The St. Louis Backstoppers, an organization which assists the families of police officers and firefighters who lose their lives in the line of duty. Jerry created and sponsors the Budweiser "Guns 'N' Hoses" annual event that features friendly sports competition between area police and firefighters. The event has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for The St. Louis Backstoppers.

Jerry's vision as a civic leader found its greatest expression in his pivotal role in the construction of one of St. Louis' most significant public buildings, the Edward Jones Dome. St. Louis residents benefit extraordinarily from his dedication and vision for a domed stadium in the downtown area. Not only did the Dome return St. Louis to the ranks of the NFL, but it provides a venue for numerous concerts and cultural events, and has hosted both Pope John Paul II and the Rev. Billy Graham. The Dome sparked the revival of professional sports in St. Louis, as reflected in the Bowl victory and the selection of St. Louis to host the 2005 Final Four NCAA basketball tournament.

In addition to providing a location for world-class sporting and cultural events, the Edward Jones Dome has proven to be an important economic engine, attracting major conventions to St. Louis that would have gone to other cities apart were it not for Mr. Clinton's financial leadership in the development of the Dome.

Having joined Grey Eagle as a dispatcher/cashier when it opened in 1963, Jerry Clinton personifies what is possible in America with hard work and dedication. His generosity and hard work have made St. Louis a better place for all its citizens. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring this fine American today.

HONORING WEBSTER  
ELEMENTARY SCIENCE TEAM

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four students from Webster Elementary School in Webster, Florida. These gifted and dedicated 6- and 7-year-olds were recently honored as the Southeast Division Elementary School Champions in the 2005 National Toshiba/NSTA Explora Vision Awards Contest.

Each year the National Toshiba/NSTA Explora Vision Awards Contest is held for K-12 students throughout the United States and Canada. This year, the contest received more than 4,000 entries. Webster Elementary's website and research project was selected as the top entry for the entire Southeast Region.

Webster's student team was Dylan Brannen, Erin Tuten, Micah Lanham and Matthew Garrepy. Their coach was Mrs. Lynn Thomas and the team mentor was Mr. Kevin Garrepy.

The national contest required the students to conceive an invention that was both innovative and creative, combining imagination with scientific principles. Once the team was selected as the Southeast Champion, they entered the semifinal round where their challenge was to design five real web pages and a prototype of their invention. They should be commended for their successes.

Each member of the team received a framed certificate and a VCR/DVD player for their winning project. A Toshiba representative presented the students with the certificate and player and gave Webster Elementary a new laptop to use to complete the project.

Mr. Speaker, these students should be applauded for their hard work and innovation. Dylan Brannen, Erin Tuten, Micah Lanham and Matthew Garrepy have shown the ingenuity and hard work that all schoolchildren should strive for.

TRIBUTE TO THE STUDENTS FROM  
SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the participation of students from the Eleventh Congressional District of Ohio in the National History Day competition. The students are from Shaker Heights High School, and they will be competing this week at the University of Maryland.

National History Day is a year-long education program that engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries and research papers based on research related to an annual theme. These projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions.

Steven Aviram, Katharine O'Gorman, Miriam Mack, Samantha Miller, Rebecca Glazer, Hannah Engel-Rebitzer, Nteni Nlandu, Annie Sivertson, Laura Stern, Michael Stavits Bohl, Emily Krassen, Kelly Jackson, Nate Bixenstine, Tom Chokel, Andrew Wiedemann, Sarah Sy and Carter Wang are the 17 students from Shaker Heights High School that will be representing the State of Ohio at the national competition. I take great pride in the students of my district and always give me great joy to see them distinguish themselves nationally.

HONORING JOHN L. BURRIS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and achievements of civil rights attorney John L. Burris of Oakland, California. Throughout his legendary career, John has provided hope and help to people who fall victim to the inequities inherent in our justice system. A leading civil rights advocate for more than 25 years, John has changed the